

# NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Released: April 4, 2005  
For Week Ending: April 3, 2005  
ND-CW1405

Cooperating With:  
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY,  
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN) and  
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER  
INFORMATION CENTER

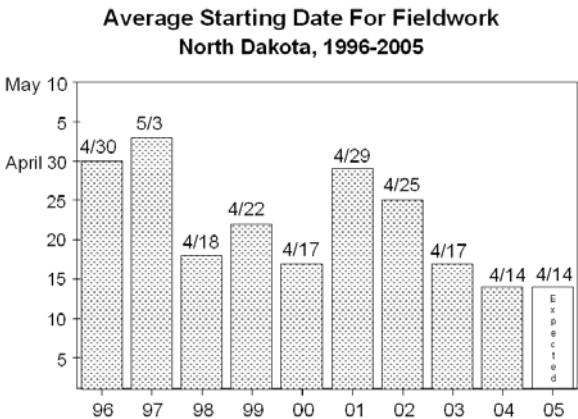
**General:** Mild weather this past week improved conditions as spring fieldwork starts, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. Producers continue to prepare machinery and line up inputs for spring fieldwork. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 6 percent very short, 22 short, 65 adequate and 7 surplus.

**Crops:** Field conditions across the state are improving. Some fertilizer applications have been carried out. The statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 14, the same as last year. The record late starting date for fieldwork was May 13, 1979. The expected starting dates range from April 8 in the southeast district to April 22 in the north central district.

**Livestock:** Mild weather conditions during the month helped maintain feed resources. Calving and lambing proceeded during March with little difficulty due to mild conditions. Calving was 53 percent complete and lambing was 72 percent complete compared with 56 and 71 percent last year, respectively. Shearing was 83 percent complete. Cattle, calves, sheep and lamb conditions were rated mostly good to excellent.

Hay and forage supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 17 short, 75 adequate and 6 surplus. This compares to last year's rating of 1 percent very short, 12 short, 80 adequate and 7 surplus. Grain and concentrate supplies were 1 percent very short, 6 short, 84 adequate and 9 surplus. Pasture conditions have improved from last week and were 6 percent growing and 94 percent still dormant.

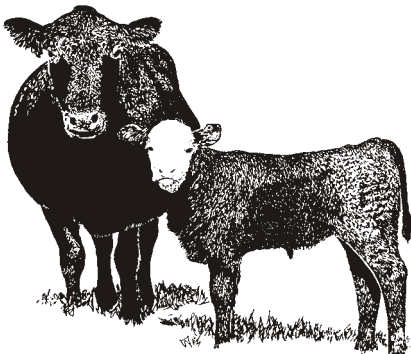
Livestock Condition Week Ending April 3, 2005					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
(Percent)					
Cows	0	2	13	68	17
Calves	0	1	12	68	19
Sheep	1	2	15	65	17
Lambs	0	2	15	67	16



**Soil Temperatures:** Average soil temperatures on April 3 ranged from a low of 32 degrees F in Langdon to a high of 47 in Williston. These readings reflect daily average temperatures under 4 inches of bare soil recorded by the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN).

Average Soil Temperatures*, April 3, 2005			
Station	Temperature	Station	Temperature
Degrees F		Degrees F	
NORTHWEST		CENTRAL	
Bowbells	36	Carrington	43
Minot	40	Robinson	37
Williston	47	Streeter	39
NORTH CENTRAL		EAST CENTRAL	
Baker	42	Dazey	40
Bottineau	36	Fargo	38
Rolla	35	SOUTHWEST	
NORTHEAST		Bowman	45
Cavalier	38	Dickinson	41
Grand Forks	38	SOUTH CENTRAL	
Langdon	32	Linton	43
WEST CENTRAL		SOUTHEAST	
Turtle Lake	42	Oakes	40
Watford City	44	Wyndmere	39

\* Thermometers located 4 inches under bare soil.  
Source: NDAWN, Department of Soil Science, NDSU.

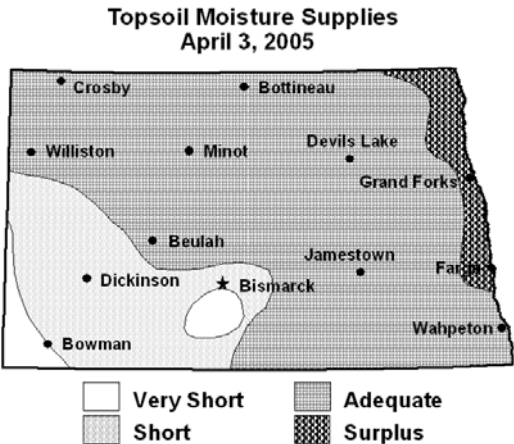


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NORTH DAKOTA CROP WEATHER REPORT, Week Ending April 3, 2005

Soil Moisture: North Dakota, April 3, 2005

Date	V. Short	Short	Adq.	Surplus
(Percent)				
TOPSOIL				
This Week	6	22	65	7
Last Week	NA	NA	NA	NA
April 4, 2004	5	21	63	11
SUBSOIL				
This Week	12	21	61	6
Last Week	NA	NA	NA	NA
April 4, 2004	7	31	58	4



**Weather:** Fairly mild and dry weather ended the month of March and began the month of April. Little precipitation fell across the state during the week. Some areas in central and western North Dakota saw scattered showers on March 29 and 30. Temperatures for the week remained above seasonal averages. Temperatures warmed into the 60s to low 70s across most of the state for the beginning of the week. Temperatures then cooled off closer to seasonal norms for the remainder of the week. The weekend saw fair weather and mild temperatures in the 50s and 60s.

**Outlook, April 4-10:** The first week of April looks to begin on a wet note. A storm system moving out of the Rockies will bring scattered showers and possible thundershowers across the state on Monday and Tuesday. Rainfall amounts should generally be under 0.25 of an inch. Temperatures will remain well above average to start out the week, with highs in the upper 50s to lower 70s and lows in the upper 30s to mid-40s. Temperatures will cool down closer to seasonal norms for midweek. Rain and snow showers will be possible in the eastern areas on Wednesday morning. The week should end with mostly clear skies and temperatures remaining above average, with highs in the mid-50s to mid-60s and lows generally in the 30s.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations  
North Dakota, Week ending April 3, 2005

District Averages	Average Temperature		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1		
	Past Week	Depart Normal <sup>1/</sup>	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal <sup>1/</sup>
		(Degrees F)			
Northwest (1)	45	13	NOT AVAILABLE		
N. Central (2)	43	12			
Northeast (3)	45	13			
W. Central (4)	46	11			
Central (5)	44	11			
E. Central (6)	47	14			
Southwest (7)	46	11			
S. Central (8)	48	13			
Southeast (9)	49	14			

<sup>1/</sup> Normal is the 1961-90 average. NA=Not Available. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations  
North Dakota, Week ending April 3, 2005

Stations by District	Temperature Past Week		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1		
	High	Low	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal <sup>1/</sup>
		(Degrees F)			
(1) Bowbells	59	26	NOT AVAILABLE		
Williston	69	26			
Mohall	62	27			
Minot	65	27			
(2) Baker	62	24			
Bottineau	63	21			
Rugby	63	22			
(3) Cando	62	26			
Cavalier	65	25			
Forest River	65	30			
Grand Forks	61	30			
Langdon	59	26			
St. Thomas	60	28			
(4) Hazen	71	19			
Turtle Lake	69	21			
Watford City	69	26			
(5) Carrington	67	21			
Harvey	64	21			
Jamestown	68	23			
Robinson	66	22			
Streeter	67	20			
(6) Dazey	67	26			
Fargo	67	27			
Hillsboro	68	30			
(7) Beach	70	23			
Bowman	73	19			
Dickinson	72	22			
Hettinger	73	19			
(8) Mandan	71	24			
Linton	71	24			
(9) Edgeley	70	26			
Oakes	72	26			
Wyndmere	69	29			

<sup>1/</sup> Normal is the 1961-90 average. NA=Not Available. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.